DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

munications relative to matters in the P

From the Washington Republican, June 2. ISRAEL A. M. E. CHURCH.

Corner-stone of the New Edifice Imposing Masonic Ceremonics by the Grand Lodge of the District—Splendid Display of Colored Citizens—Oration by Mr. John II

As was previously announced, the cere-As was previously announced, the cere-mony of laying the corner-stone of the new editice of the congregation of Israel Metho-dist Episcopal Church, one of the oldest and best known in the District, took place yester-day. The new building will be located on the corner of B and First streets southwest. the corner of B and First streets southwest. It will occupy a lot ninety by sixty feet. The architecture is of the Gothic order, the material of brick and stone, and when completed it will be one of the finest edifices for worship in the District and an honor to the people who are laboring so hard for its construction. Long before the hour named for the commencement of the cremonies crowden. the commencement of the ceremonies crowds the commencement of the ceremonies crowds of colored people had gathered in the vicinito, and by three o'clock there were fully five thousand present. The Grand Lodge of colored Masons, who had been invited to lay the corner-stone, were tendered the services of the Knights Templar as an escort, and the G-and Commandery, under the command of Most Eminent Commander John A. Gray, in full uniform, the officers and Master Massers which was infinitely creditable to the craft. They assemble at their asylum, and after the line had formed marched to the spot, headed to the spot, headed to the spot, headed to the spot was spot and the state of the spot was spot and the spot was spot was

introduced Right Worshipful Brother John H. Brooks, the orator of the day, who deliv-ered the following:

Most Worshopful Grand Master and Member of the Fraternity—Sir Knights and Fellow-Citizens: I approach the discharge of the duties assigned me, in these interesting ceremonies, with great reluctance from a con-scious inability to fully meet the requirements of so important an occasion.

It is noteworthy of Masons that they avail

themselves of but few, and never trivial occasions, to appear as an organized body in public. Some great duty must at all times be the motive power that will induce them to give up their sacred places of retreat and appear before the world; not that they are afraid to meet the gaze and criticisms of all mankind, nor that they are a shamed of their profession, but because their chief and great work, like that of the true Christian, can be best performed in a quiet and unostentations manner. It is true that death, the great manner. It is true that death, the great leveler, too often brings us before you in discharge of the melancholy duty of commit-ting a brother's body to its mother earth, and in his awful presence, no doubt, the mys-teries that in the eye of the public seems to surround us, may partake of a fearful nature; but there are other times and occasions when but there are other times and occasions when Masons have a delight in coming out into the world "properly clothed in the habiliments that distinguish them from others," and for the performance of sacred duties peculiar to their Order from the building of the Temple of Jerusalem to the present day.

That great monument of human wisdom and capacity, the "Encyclopedia Brittanica" in specifica of Freenewsony and

and capacity, the "Encyclopedia Brittau-ica," in speaking of Freemasonry, says: "One of the first objects of man, in a rude state of being, is to screen himself and his family from the heat of the tropical sun, from the inclemency of the polar regions, or from the sudden changes of more temperate cli-mates. If he has arrived at such a degree of improvement as to live under the dominion of a superior, and under the influence of a of a superior, and under the influence of a religious belief, the palace of his king and temple of his gods will be reared in the most magnificent style which his skill can devise and industry accomplish. Architecture is accordingly entitled to a very high position was the hatred of the presence of the negro. most always possessed.

nry is an ancient and respecta-"Freemasonry is an ancient and respecta-ble institution, embracing individuals of every nation, religion, and condition in his. In nation, religion, and condition in life. In this institution and obtain

right and duty of Freemasons, and, follow-ing in the footsteps of our ancient brethren, we are here to-day advisedly, not for show and pomp, but in the performance of an im-

maid and friend of the Church, and had the Church, like Masonry, never deviated from her primitive teachings, there never would have been cause for one single jar or ripple of that harmonious intercourse and friend-ship that existed between them, from the reat Jehovah commanded in the seventeenth alem to be built to the seventeenth the Christian era. But the century of the Christian era. d grown rapidly in numbers and power. Many magnificent monasteries and cathedrals had been erected, ambitious and designing men had entered her priesthood, trines and teachings of the lowly Jesus, who had declared that his kingdon was not of this world, were found to be illy suited to the ambitions of the men who taught that kingdoms and principalities in His name should be established on earth.

It was about this time the fatal step was sken of blending the Church and State, and he assumption by the Church of the control an alliance for political purposes with the State. The same great author says, in speaking of the cause that led to the Roman

the only causes which produced such a striking change in the conduct of the Church toward the Masonic order. As we have already stated, the spirit of Freemasonry was hostile to the principles of the Church of Rome. The intention of the one was to enlighten the mind; the object and policy of the other was to retain it in ignorance. When Freemasonry flourished, the power of the Church must have decayed."

I have adverted to those historical facts not in condemnation, of course, of the Roman Catholic Church, but in vindication of the claim of Masonry to perform this particu-

man Catholic Church, but in vindication of the claim of Masonry to perform this particular ceremony, and to establish the fact the Church, though now opposed to the Order, for many years during its early history, regarded Masonry as a handmaid.

No, my friends, Masonry is not envious or jealous of the power or influence of any other society. With the Supreme Architect above as her Grand Master, and the Holy Bible here below as a guide for her "faith and practice," she bids godspeed to all institutions. Enter the door of Masonry, and you will there find an order to curb the intemperate passion, to restrain the spirit of ambition, and to teach charity and forbear-ance to individuals, justice and integrity to amotton, and to teach charity and forbear-ance to individuals, justice and integrity to governments, humanity and benevolence to nations; to banish from the world every source of enmity and hostility, and to intro-duce those social feelings on which depend, in a high degree, the peace and order of so-ciety.

ciety.

The establishing of Christian churches of the Knights Templar as an escort, and the Grand Commandery, under the command of Most Eminent Commander John A. Gray, and Gethsemane and Simon Commanderies in full uniform, the officers and Master Masser at the several lodges made up an execution of the several lodges and the several lodges are several lodges and the several lodges are several lodges and the several lodges and the several lodges are several lodges are several lodges and the several lodges are several lodges and the several lodges are several lodges are several lodges and the several lodges are several lodges are several lodges and the several lodges are several lodges are several lodges.

They assemble at their asylum, and after the line had formed marched to the spot, headed by the Fort Whipple band.

The corner-stone, which occupied the usual position, was of brownstone, and the box contained copies of the daily papers, the fible, United States and other coins, the names of the President and Cabinet, District officials, the members of the Grand Lodge and other interesting documents.

At three o'clock the assemblage was called to order by the pastor, Rev. Mr. Mitchell, and devotional exercises held. These were followed by short addresses by several well-known gentlemen, and then the procession having arrived, the Grand Lodge took charge. The commanderies were formed in a circle, and a few brief introductory remarks were made by Grand Master Wm. II. Myers, after which the corner-stone was adjusted, the proper officers of the Grand Lodge officiating at the impressive ceremony.

The Most Worthy Grand Commander then introduced Right Worshipful Brother John Christian fellowship and equality, and where they were recognized no obligations either morally or intellectually to redeem them from ignorance and darkness, or to improve their hearts and minds by the teaching of Christian love and fellowship. The word their morally or intellectually to redeem them from ignorance and darkness, or to improve their hearts and minds by the teaching of Christian love and fellowship. They were legion or politics. The Constitution of their country, which secured liberty to every other person in the land, was to them a dead letter. It is true the Church did not go so far as to exclude them by canon, but practically they were excluded from all its benefits, and their presence was barely tolerated in sectuded parts of the temple. They were not only the civil and political Pariahs of American society, but also of the Christian followship under our republican form of government were denied them with supreme contempt, only equaled by that of the the denial of the Church of Christian fellowship and equality, and where the pr Christian fellowship and equality, and where they were recognized at all, it was only as a necessity to a tutelage that better fitted them

for profitable service to their masters.

The Christian church at first only tolerated American slavery, but alas! its ministry fell, and from mere toleration it embraced and defended it; to the colored man there was but fended it; to the colored man there was but one text from which the gospel was preached—"Servants, obey your masters." His na-ture, so susceptible of religious instruction, was blunted by false doctrines. What was the love of Christ, as practically shown him by the white Christian, but a mockery. How was he, poor, ignorant and blind, under such teachings, to grow in Christian knowledge and truth? What was the Christian minis-try to him but a body of

and truth? What was the Christian minis-try to him but a band of moral cowards and hypocrites, who had one gospel for the white man and another for the black.

My friends, it was such a deplorable state of affairs as I have described that compelled the colored people to establish Christian churches, and I am sorry to say it, but it was the want of confidence in the justice and truth of the destribus prached to the band trath of the doctrines preached to them by a white ministry in Christian churches, and the belief that the ministry itself were false to their Christian duties and professions, that led them to the unchristian desire to have separate churches, to be known as ".churches."

they reasoned that the negro was highly emotional by nature, and that his crude and ignorant idea of God and religion would re-sult in a style and method of worship that sult in a style and method of worship that would serve as a safety-valve to the exhuberance of his animal nature. They did not care how grotesque his behavior, or how false his conceptions of what was proper and right to be done in the house of God, so long as the service did not partake of a nature to weaken the hold slavery had on his body and mind. Professing white Christians stood by and cared not what excesses were regarded by these poor ignorant people as a proper service to be held in the church of Christ. The services at the "negro churches" was

accordingly entitled to a very high position was the hatred of the presence of the negro in their churches. It was the convenient and smart method of getting rid of a disagreeable element in the white hurches, any occasion. There is some foundation in the very nature of architecture for those extraordinary privileges to which Massons have traordinary privileges to which Massons have also accordingly entitled to a very high position in their churches. It was the convenient and smart method of getting rid of a disagreeable element in the white heart of the presence of the negro in their churches. It was the convenient and smart method of getting rid of a disagreeable element in the white churches. Well, the colored man left the partitioned-off corner in the white man's church, where he was not wanted, and went to the hut and lowly pine-board meeting house, there to know and serve God in the manner that his know and serve God in the manner that his feeble light and instinct might lead him, and

What was permitted by the church and slavery as a harmless amusement, by which the slave might pass away the idle hours of every candidate comes under a solemn engagement never to divulge the mysteries of the Order, nor communicate to the uninitiated the secrets with which he may be intrusted and the proceedings and plans with which the fraternity may be engaged. tated the secrets with which he may be intrusted and the proceedings and plans with which the fraternity may be engaged.

The desire for pomp and ceremony displayed at an early period by the Roman Catholic priests, in the exercise of their religion, introduced a corresponding desire for splendid monasteries and magnificent cathedrals. In order to encourage the profession of architecture, the Pontili's of Rome and other potentiates of Europe conferred on the fraternity of Freemasons the most important privileges, and allowed to be governed by laws, customs and ceremonies peculiar to themselves. The association was composed of all nations. of Freemasons the most important privileges, and allowed to be governed by laws, customs and ceremonics peculiar to themselves. The great blessing to the colored people. They association was composed of all nations, who were denominated Freemasons, and who, traveling from one country to another, crected those elegant churches and cathedrals which men still admire. The government of this association was remarkably regular. Freemasons monopolized the building of religious structures in all Christendom."

It will thus be seen, my friends, that the laying of the corner-stone of a temple dedicated to the worship of the living God, was, in ancient times, considered the exclusive right and duty of Freemasons, and, follow-

The colored people themselves soon dis and pomp, but in the performance of an important and interesting ceremony, that from the earliest ages until the present day has been regarded as the peculiar work of Freemasons.

Masonry has ever been the faithful handmaid and friend of the Church, and had the Church, like Masonry, never deviated from his white Christian brother was drawn to his work and his manner of doing it; and here let me say, that there were many brave and true Christian spirits among the white minis-try who dared, in the face of all opposition, i. c., even of death itself, to be true to their Christian profession. God alone knows of their many private acts of Christian love to the poor slave. Verily, they have their re-ward.

Now, my friends, of these humble beginnings of Christian churches amongst the colored people here, dear old Israel church stands most prominent. I shall not attempt to give you her history, but I do know none deserve better at your hands. Through many years of trials and tribulations and great secrifices, her organization has been kept up until to-day. She has done a great and good work in the past; may greatful hearts now assist her to perform a like great and good work in the present and future.

an alliance for political purposes with the State. The same great author says, in There are many sound reasons why we speaking of the cause that led to the Itoman Catholic church opposing Masonry: "There being now no scarcity of architects, the very reason which prompted the Church to protect the fraternity ceased to exist; they therefore withdrew from them that patronage they had spontaneously offered, and denied them the even the liberty of holding their secret assemblies. But these were not

yonder Capitol in support of slavery she has yonder Capitol in support of slavery she has replied in earnest and cloquent prayer that God, in His infinite justice, would open the prison door and let the oppressed go free; and to every sentiment of justice that was uttered in behalf of the poor slave, she promptly, in the fullness of gratitude responded amen. Many good men in Congress, in days past, were inspired and encouraged to continue to fight valiantly the battle of freedom by a visit to "Old Israel church just down the hill from the Capitol," and frequent has been the reference to the "colored church down the hill" as evidence of "virtue, refinement and education existing among the colored people at the capital of the nation."

refinement and education existing among the colored people at the capital of the nation."

The local and peculiar reasons why the old church organization should be kept up and a new church built are too numerous for me to mention here, but it does seem to me that the spirit of Newton, Cornish, Dunlop, Tenney, Nichols, and a host of good men now departed, is around and about to urge us to accoraplish this good work. They did not work in vain, for old Israel church has beed work in vain, for old Israel church has lived to see new doctrines and principles adopted at the Capitol and Senators confess a creed and practice a justice that puts even the Church to shame. The battle against the fearful sin, prejudice, which should have found natural leaders in the Church, it seems to shame in the Senate of the work in vain, for old Israel church has bye has its champions in the Senate of the United States. Says a very distinguished United States, Says a very distinguished Senator, in discussing that crowning measure of civil and religious liberty and equality, the civil rights bill: "I believe what our fathers who laid the foundations taught, that all men are created equal. I believe in a still older teaching—that God is no respecter of persons, and that he made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on the face of the earth; and further, that he maketh his sum to rise on the still and the good and sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sendeth rain on the just and unjust. I be sendeth rain on the just and unjust. I ne-lieve that government is instituted for all, and, like the sun, the rain and the dew, should shed its blessing upon all alike. I believe that the colored race in this coun-try differ in nothing but their lineage from the white race account in so far as their uphe white race, except in so far as their na the white race, except in so far as their na-tures have been dwarfed by slavery. That they have the same bodily and mental and moral faculties, the same wants and appe-tites, the same capacity for labor and enjoy-ment, the same sensibility to wrong and in-sult, no one can deny.

"I ask what argument do we find arrayed against this claim to equality under the law, founded, as I have endeavored to show, upon the fundamental law of the land? I regret to say the argument begins and ends in prei-

the fundamental law of the land? I regret to say the argument begins and ends in prej-udice—a prejudice as unreasonable as it is unjust; a prejudice that reaches beyond life, even, and would perpetuate distinctions in the grave. Alas, sir, I know how hard it is to argue against prejudices. Time, reason, and reflection only can correct them. But hopeless is the task of reasoning them away, let me remind the Senate that Nature has not discriminated against the negro in any of her resulations. On the contrary, he has not discriminated against the negro in any of her regulations. On the contrary, he has all the bodily faculties in the fullest perfec-tion, the same capacity to subdue nature and supply his wants; the same appetites. More than that, he has the same spiritual nature; the same thirst for knowledge; the same hopes and fears; the same sensibility to wrong and insult, and the same desire to im-prove his condition. If you could force the prove his condition. If you could forget the color of his skin, the difference between him and you would disappear. And then, again, does he not dwell in this goodly heritage by the same title that you do and I do? Is he not warmed by the same sun, does he not breathe the same air, and draw his subsist-ence from the same bountiful earth, which knows no distinction in the hands that till her and bring forth her fruits. More than that, does be not speak the same language, worship the same God, owe the same allegiance, and obey the same laws?

"Sir, when I remember the wrongs that have been inflicted upon the colored race."

through so many generations of slavery; when I recall how patient and long-suffering they have been through all the long years of cruel bondage; how they have contributed to the wealth and prosperity of the country, and at last how nobly they came to its rescue, when, like a noble ship, it seemed about dashing upon rocks and perishing, and how they offered their lives to save the government they had known only by its oppressions. ment they had known only by its oppressions my heart warms with unspeakable gratitude. When the opportunity for wreaking venge-ance upon his task-master, was the negro swift to avenge by fire and sword, and rapine his accumulated wrongs? No, sir, to his lasting honor, let it be remembered of him lasting honor, let it be remembered of him and stir our warmest sentiments of gratitude in the memory, that he watched like a faithful sentmel over the women and children and tenderly cared for them, while his rebel master was seeking upon fields of battle to fix him and his posterity in a still more hopeless condition of slavery. Even then he put aside the supreme temptation, and listened only to the voice of religion, 'Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.'" Eloquent Senator and Christian gentleman.

Eloquent Senator and Christian gentleman, the colored people bless and thank you for these noble words.

The negro who a few years ago was a chattel slave flogged at his master's pleasure and sold on the auction block to pay his master's debts, is now a citizen and a voter; the schools are open to his children; literary institutions invite him to their privileges and honors; he is a landholder and planter and politician; sits in the jury box and pleads at he bar; he is legislator and Representative n Congress and Governor of a Common

Yes, my friends, there remains yet one im-Tes, my friends, there remains yet one important thing to be done; it is the work of the Christian ministry, the work of all true Masons and of every American citizen, Christianity, Masonry and the constitution of our country forbids "caste distinctions." Let us,

then, in the future, banish it from our hearts
---banish it from the land.
My friends, I must close. Some here to day may consider that I am rash and speak too plainly on a subject that I might have allowed to sleep. True, I might have spoken in praise of the Church and of Masonry for the principles upon which both are founded are alike-noble, just and true; but the great question of the hour, to my mind, is how can we rid the Church and Masonry of this great sin-prejudice against a man on account of the color of his skin. Just and true men who fear God and love their country and fellow man are making a great effort to banish it from the State. Is it not right, then, to cry aloud against this great eyil, which has in the

anous against this great evil, which has in the past and is now doing such a fearful injury to the cause of religion and society?

Ah! who of us can measure the evil consequence of the presence of this monster in the Church; it has driven thousands from her doors into doubt and intidelity.

of human rights and equality says: Its dis-inguished author (the late Senator Sumner knew that he was standing on a solid rock, and from day to day and year to year he challenged those who hesitated to indorse and those who oppressed to attack his posi-tion; but all that they dared to do was to de-cline the contest. With his dying breath he commended the civil rights bill to his countrymen. What one of the ablest states

who spoke against this measure would care to submit his arguments to the Great Judge? In the presence of Divine Justice these ap-peals to human pride and human prejudice are lighter than dust. Of all the champions of the institution of slavery that have lived and died in the United States no one has ever asked to have it engraved on the stone that marks his resting place, that he bought or sold, or owned a human being.

marks his resting place, that he bought or sold, or owned a human being. May Christian, Mason and citizen do their whole duty to put away this sin, remember-ing that our daily acts are recorded, and the time will soon come that the record we have made here on earth will be read by one be-fore whom nothing can be hid.

"I want to know," said a creditor fiercely, "when you are going to pay me what you owe me?" "When I'm going to pay you! Why, you're a pretty fellow! Do you take me for a prophet?"

The affectionate wife in Des Moines, Iowa who gave her husband morphine to cure him of his longing for tobacco, discovered that the expense of his funeral, economical as it was, would have kept him in the best of fine

THE CIVIL-RIGHTS BILL.

Another Letter from Mr. Conway. Mixed Schools in the Light of Experience -Authorities on the subject-The N Viewed from Various Standpoints.

SIR: Thanking you for the space so genrously granted for my letter of last week, to the Republican, on the Civil-Rights Bill I come with another plea on the same sub-

Our neighbor and fellow citizen with black skin has been knocking at the door of Justice so long already, that the delay in opening it to him is one of the most astonishing igns of the times.

In my letter of last week I gave my own xperience with mixed schools, during near ly five years, in the State of Louisiana. This I can reproduce by stating three simple prop-

1. The law of Louisiana provided that the chools should be as free to the colored as to he white children.

II. The Democrats of the State, and some of the Republicans, asserted that the law, if nforced, would destroy the public schools. III. The law was enforced; the schools ere not even injured, and at the close of my erm of office, the State had five times as many public free schools as it ever had before nder the superintendency of any of my

predecessors. In this letter I wish to republish the testinony of other educators, who, in their time, have had to meet the same question now raised by the opponents of the Civil-Rights Bill. In another letter I will give the opinhis possession of those qualities which are the least by their efforts to elevate themcalculated to make him as a public-school pupil submissive to authority, and generally as decorous as his white schoolmates, neighbors and playfellows.

I. TESTIMONY ON THE QUESTION OF MIXED

(1.) New Orleans: The Board of School Rollinson, its secretary, in 1871, and transmitted to the State Board of Education by Judge Henry C. Dibble, chairman of the Board, says: "The requirements of the school law have been faithfully observed by the Board, and no case has come to their knowledge of the exclusion of a pupil on acunt of race, color, or previous condition. Nor has this strict adherence to the law been attended by any of the unfacorable results so freely predicted, in advance of the honest trial of an impartial system of education. As a general thing, pupils have preferred to attend at schools where their associates are of their own race, but in the instances where, under the action of the schools have, to some extent become mixed schools, no difficulty is exerienced. In one school where, under the passionate impulse of the moment, the whole number of white children was withdrawn because of the admission of colored pupils, they have returned to their places, and the school proceeding harmoniously.

(2.) The Third Congressional District of ouisiana : Rev. R. K. Diossy, in his annual my work; there is no question about race or both colors attend school in common, and ometimes colored teachers have in their chools numbers of white children."

Board of New Orleans and of the Division operintendent for the Third Congressional dicate what may be considered the effects of the Civil-Rights Bill in the towns, cities, and rural districts of the South, My own experience as State Superintendent, is expressed in the propositions named above.

Allow me now to state as briefly as possible, the experience of others on the same ques-

(3.) Boston: Hon, John D. Philbrick. Superintendent of the public schools of Bos-Superintendent of the public schools of Bos-ton, says as to mixed schools which had then at the time of his writing just come into ex-tended the school with the school of Bos-ton, says as to mixed schools which had then at the time of his writing just come into exthese noble words.

An influential journal, reviewing the action of the Senate on this subject, says: "Nothistence: "Perhaps the most material residuity that culminated into a light, a listence: "Perhaps the most material residuity that culminated into a light, a listence: "Perhaps the most material residuity that culminated into a light, a listence: "Perhaps the most material residuity that culminated into a light, a listence: "Perhaps the most material residuity that culminated into a light, a listence: "Perhaps the most material residuity that culminated into a light, a listence: "Perhaps the most material residuity that culminated into a light, a listence: "Perhaps the most material residuation and the most sult to be accertained is that which has been produced in respect to the attendance of the two classes affected by the change. (Boston change I from caste schools to free public schools in 1855.) If the attendance of colored children is better than under the former arrangement, then it would be fair to conclude that the change has been a benefit to that class. If, on the other hand, the attendance of white children has not, by the change, been diminished, it will be reasonably inferred that no serious injury has resulted to that class. I have visited two schools which embrace most of the colored children who attend the Grammar schools of the city. I took occasion to inquire of the masters and some of the other teachers of these schools, respecting the effect of the introduction into their classes, of colored children. The reply was: 'No evil effect has been experienced.' In other Grammar schools, where a few colored children were found, similar inquires were made and similar replies received. No one complains that white children have been withdrawn or kept from school because of the admission of colored pupils, or that any sort of difficulty had been encountered in bringing together in the same school-room children of different colors. With my present information on the subject, I have no hesita tion in saying that, in my judgment, the colored schools of Boston were not disband-

(4.) Worcester, Mass.: The School Com mittee, speaking of the abolition of the colored school in that city, says : "The older colored children in the separate school, have compared unfavorably with the colored children of the same age in other schools, simply for the want of the stimulus of companionship in their studies.

(5.) Cambridge, Mass.: The report of the School Committee says: "In the Broadway school a singular fact was noticed, viz., the mixture of four different races among the pupils - the Anglo-Saxon, Tentonic, Celtic and the African, but by the influence of the teacher, and of habit, there exists perfect good feeling among them, and there is no apparent consciousness of a difference of race or condition."

(6.) New Bedford, Mass.: John F. Emerson, teacher of the High School, New Bedford, says: "My pupils are of all classes of the community. Many of them are from families of the highest respectability. I have had no instance of any difficulty aris ing from the admission of colored children They have uniformly been treated with cour tesy and kindness by the other scholars."

(7.) Nantucket, Mass. : Hon. John H. Shaw says: "Early in February last, the present committee took charge of the schools, and decided to admit the colored children. There were twenty-seven of them attending the

colored school, there are now fifty of them in the various colored schools, well behaved, orderly children. Not a single complaint has been made to the Committee thus far,

from any teacher, respecting any of them."
(8.) Boston: Rev. Henry Upham, then editor of the Watchman and Reflector, and member of the School Committee, said: "On the morning that the colored children were admitted, our Grammar and Primary schools were thronged with colored children, all happy, cleanly and well clothed. The change has worked well "

(9.) Rhode Island: The State Commis ioner, in 1857, said, in his report for that year: "When men are completely sunk in degradation, they are apt to be content with their lot. But raise them a few degrees and they immediately grew dissatisfied with their Table and Treadle for only \$10 that does the state, and are wretched indeed if they are not daily rising higher and higher. The 80 most profitable influence of public schools, where there is a sufficiency of good teachers, is in blending the community into one kindred. Here the children of the rich and the children of the poor meet together, and each class exerts a good influence upon the other. The higher class will learn to know, and re spect and to admire those of the other, and thd lower class will be raised in manners and refinement, and will become ambitious and improve their condition. They will learn more of neatness, more of skill, and will be elevated in their own ideas of what they can do, and will also be stimulated to attempt more than they otherwise would have done. Thus the lower half of the community will family or a relation, there is none better or so cheap. Machines sent to all parts of the country on receipt of price \$10. Read advertisement beginning "\$60 saved in every Family" in another part of this paper. Address the Proprietors, Roberter J. MULLI be every day feeling the expansive force and and power of higher thoughts, and will of ons of leading Southerners as to the good course do more to make the nation intelligent and kindly nature of the negro, and as to and prosperous, while no one will seffer in selves.

(10.) William C. Nell, a colored gentle man of Boston, writes on this subject: "I am familiar with several instances where the colored children are progressing rapidly in studies and becoming favorites both with teachers and pupils. They appear to be Directors, in a report written by Rev. William arranging upon their proper levels, irrespective of complexion, and this is all that any intelligent person can ask."

That statesmanship which leads General Butler to consent to the striking out of the free-school feature of the Civil-Rights Bill, and that which leads President Grant to tell members of Congress that this feature of the bill, if not the whole bill, had better not become a law, we will consider at the proper time — we white Republicans, as well as our colored fellow-citizens.

Respectfully, THOMAS W. CONWAY. WASHINGTON, June 10, 1874.

Notes from the Capital. To My Townsfolks "Afar."

I am at this moment, my dear towns folks afar," in no mood for sharp utterances I had carefully selected some words of keen ness with which to handle a matter or so here that needs the severest overhauling I had garnered up and prepared to give vent to some Damascus-bladed thoughts, and had my pen dipped and uplift for the task, when eport for 1871, says: "The subject of the illness of a valued friend-we shall all nixed schools has in no wise embarrassed be ill on some one or other of these daysreached my ear, and I dropped all and wen olor. In some localities the children of to him. As he lay there upon his bed, I said what is man, and what are all the guilded pegeantry of Earth! How transitory is our life; how unavailing all our I have given the testimony of the School efforts to the contrary when the summons for our departure comes. As I left District of Louisiana, because these will in- I did so with the feeling that my friend, Robert H. Booker's summons, was not on the

that house of sadness, I cannot say that the operation of the free-school feature of way for him. I went again to his house and found him, in obedience to the summons,it had come, -- though in great bodily pain, fast journeying from home and friends, and yet nearer and dearer ones-his family to a better state than ours, and into which he has finally entered.

Robert H. Booker has cone, but his exam ple remains. Hewas one of those rare amongst iding star, for first attempts at all our industries. He was a member of the firm of Booker & Stewart, barbers, in the highest sense of that profession. The firm of Book or & Stewart meant business, active business, "The East" and "The West." One is a business unceasingly. They formed a co business unceasingly. They formed a co-partnership over twenty years ago, and so continued an unbroken harmonious existence without a ripple of dissatisfaction or discontent to this present, and only now disolved by death.

In these days of our unrest, and unceasing change, and succomb to the dominant race. yet notwithstanding when our young men with heir stought heart and fresh blood are seeking business which compels developement, ensures success, and finally independence; in monial, over the signature of Mr. Moran these days when our youth require what is just now too much neglected, good trades, which cannot be taken from them; in these days when we conduct so few business houses here or elsewhere, and evince so little business confidence in each other, and process of the original paintings. so little spirit of business venture anywhere; in these days, I affirm that the firm of Booker & Stewart must ever stand out as a rare example among us to be imitated and commended.

Very respectfully, (Signed,) THOS. MORAN.

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commended.

As a man self-employed, Robert H. Booker's industries were scarcely bounded by his physical ability to perform them. He was ever at his post. In his dealings he was always exact but equally just. As a hustless had been supported by the self-employed, Robert H. Booker's industries were scarcely bounded by his physical ability to perform them. He was ever at his post. In his dealings he was always exact but equally just. As a hustless had been supported by the self-employed for production they cost. band and father he was comparable with the best among us. His love for his children, as the publishers only a trille, while equal in every respect to other chromos that are sold singly for double the subscription price of THE I remember, exhibited in many little touchmother. As a friend, he was frank, sincere, steadfast. Under a sturdy exterior, kind, possible.

ALDINE. Persons of unste win prize these pictures for themselves—not for the price they did not cost, and will appreciate the enterprise that renders their distribution possible. gentle, tender, who among us, can ever forget him? We followed him to the portals of the grave, but could go no further, and could only say farewell friend and brother, farewell!

More anon, OLD BOY IN "SPECTS." Howard University.

To the Editor of the New Estional Era : A musical and literary entertai given in the college chapel of Howard Uni- pe versity last Friday evening, 5th inst., under the auspices of the "Young Men's Christian Association," connected with the above institution. On account of the inclemency of the weather the audience was small but appreciative. The orations were finely de-

applause.
Miss Mary F. Hobson, of Richmond, Va. very ably presided at the piano-forte. Next Friday evening, 12th inst., there will be commencement exercises of the Normal Department of the University, in

ivered, and the singing elicited well-merited

the college chapel. Yours, &c., "STYLUS." NOTICE.

Citizenship, its Rights and Duties.-Woman Suffrage.

THE above Lecture, as delivered before the Pioneer Lyceum, at Hillsdale, D. C., April 12th, 1874, by D. Augustus Straker, a young lawyer of this city, and a graduate of Howard University, is now in pamphlet-form, and may be obtained by sending P. O. order for 15 cts. to the address of WILLIAM WARING, esq., Washington, D. C., and at the bookstores of J. C. PARKER, cor. 7th and F Sts., and BRADLEY ADAMS, cor. 9th and F. Sts. [m15-4t.

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PROSPECTUS NEW NATIONAL ERA

LEWIS II. DOUGLASS, EDITOR.

The New National Enawill partake of a twofold nature—that of an Advocate and an Educator. As an Advocate it will assert and maintain every right pertaining to the American citi-zen, independent of race, color, or accident of birth. It will demand the recognition of thesa rights wherever the Constitution extends or the national ensign waves. As an Educator, its columns will be an especial medium for the effective diffusion of right principles and muchneeded instruction, and for the inculcation of those habits of industry, economy, and self re-liance which conduce to independent manhood, and give vitality and energy to free government,

suring in return blessings to the governed. While the editors of the New NARIONAL ERA re colored men, and the contributors will be nainly colored, yet the columns will be open for the discussion of all questions of vital importance to the country by any of itseitizens. Comunications suitable for publication in these columns, are solicited from our friends in all parts of the country, especially in the Southern

THE POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

Upon all questions involving the especial inrests of the colored American citizen, the simple rule of equal justice for all men will govern the policy of the New NATIONAL ERA. It wildemand the recognition of no right for one citizen which it will not freely accord to every

citizen which it will not freely accord to every other. It will oppose any attempt to conter privileges upon a class, that are withheld from the humblest citizen in the land. It will demand for avery citizen equality before the law, and fail protection of person and property in every State and Territory of the National Union.

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